

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA GOVERNOR

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TALAUEGA E. V. ALE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

## United States Air Force Birthday **September 18, 2021** Message from the Acting Governor

Prior to the establishment of the Air Force, the military's flying operations were managed by the United States Army and the United States Navy. World War II illustrated the value of airpower, and the need to change the basic organization of the United States Military Forces. This new era further established airpower as a major element of our Nation's defense. In 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act which established the Department of Defense and the United States Air Force as an independent military branch.

Today, the Air Force celebrates 74 years of dedicated service to our great nation. They continue to accomplish their core missions of air and space superiority, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, rapid global mobility, global strike, and command and control. The United States Air Force is unrivaled and the leading force in air, space and cyberspace.

On behalf of Governor Lemanu Mauga and our families, we honor the Air Force's legacy of service and innovation; and we salute all the dedicated Airmen who have answered our Nation's call. We thank you for your sacrifice, service, and commitment to the defense of our Nation.

Happy 74<sup>th</sup> Birthday United States Air Force and Aim High ... Fly-Fight-Win!

TALAUEGA E. V. ALE Acting Governor